



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-54. (Canceled)

55. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide that does not exceed 25 amino acids in length wherein:

(a) said peptide contains the amino acid sequence H A R L (portion of SEQ ID NO:2, residues 292-295); and

(b) **optionally contains** additional amino acids before and after the amino acid sequence H A R L of said peptide
wherein said peptide has 100% homology to a Neural Thread Protein (NTP) sequence.

56.-58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously Presented) The isolated peptide of claim 55, wherein the peptide consists of the amino acid sequence H A R L (portion of SEQ ID NO:2, residues 292-295).

60. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide comprising a fragment of a Neural Thread Protein (NTP) sequence ~~not exceeding 25 amino acids in length~~, wherein said fragment comprises the amino acid sequence H A R L, **and wherein said peptides do not exceed 25 amino acids in length.**